

the appointment," he recalls. "They were not the least bit enamored with my decision and tried to talk me out of it. I said it wouldn't hurt them and it wouldn't hurt me and if it did hurt me, then I'd just go on and do something else for a living."

"Maybe it's because Judge Shaw's credentials were so impressive, but there was never any negative feedback. You pick a winner, you'll be all right. Still, it surprised me, considering the reaction I had gotten before the announcement. It was not the deal-breaker in the community that they thought. Just a sense of calm. I can remember a few members of the Bar Association raised minor objections when Judge Shaw would cross-examine witnesses in rape cases, but that didn't amount to much."

Booth's son believes Kennedy's assassination in Dallas one week later overshadowed the appointments. There is no doubt it ate up all the news space and air time, as anyone who can remember that day knows.

"I'm not sure I want to go there," Austin says. "I think if there was going to be any serious criticism I'd have gotten it the first or second day."

Perhaps the explanation is that racial tension in Jacksonville did not seriously heat up until later in the 1960s.

The younger Booth recalls his house was put under police guard and a slur was spray-painted on the family car when his father successfully prosecuted four Ku Klux Klansmen for brutally attacking an elderly black minister. The September 1965 verdict was the second conviction the elder Booth obtained in a white-on-black crime case with an all-white jury. The defense attorney, incidentally, was J.B. Stoner, the flamboyant white supremacist who later ran for governor of Georgia.

"A lot of people have taken a lot of credit for a lot of things in the advancement of civil rights," says the junior Booth. "There's nothing wrong with that. It's fine that they do. But my dad and Mr. Austin took it in stride."

"All in a day's work," says Austin.

Taylor and Shaw took it in stride, too. An example is a meeting of Austin's staff in which one of the lawyers said, "Look, we can do what we want. We're free, white and 21." All eyes turned to Shaw. Looking perplexed, he dead-panned, "You want to run that by me again?"

Austin later switched to prosecution and, as state attorney, employed both Taylor and Shaw. Taylor retired in 1977 and died 11 years later. Shaw prosecuted 42 cases and lost only one. In 1979, Gov. Bob Graham appointed Shaw to the state supreme court where he was elevated to chief justice in 1990. He is now 77, retired, and lives in Leon County.

Despite admitted political differences, Austin and Shaw remain close friends. It was Shaw who swore in Austin as Jacksonville's mayor in 1991.

Booth Sr. died in 2006, like Taylor, at age 78.

All but lost to history is a quiet act of political courage that occurred in Northeast Florida some 45 years ago, but it lives on as the memory of a job well done by a man in his eighties and in the pride of a son for his father.

RECOGNIZING BRENDAN MOORE FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE FIFTH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brendan Moore for his outstanding

work on behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Illinois. For the past two years, Brendan has served as my Legislative Counsel, advising my staff and me on legal issues and doing Judiciary Committee work.

A true Chicagoan and graduate of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Brendan represented my alma mater with aplomb in his work on various legislative initiatives, including bills to close the gun show loophole and to ensure honest services from our elected officials. Furthermore, his great attitude and hearty sense of humor made working with him a true pleasure.

Perhaps most importantly, as a Notre Dame graduate Brendan gave me someone with whom I could talk ND football—even if the news was usually bad.

Whether it was Honest Services, Judiciary Committee briefings, or football under the Golden Dome, Brendan's thoughtful and professional contributions have been a great boon to our office and we thank him.

As he leaves to pursue public service opportunities back in Chicago, I am confident that his expertise, integrity, and good humor will continue to serve the people of Illinois well. I thank Brendan again for his hard work and wish him the best of luck in the future.

CONGRATULATING REAR ADMIRAL MICHAEL MCMAHON

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rear Admiral Michael McMahon, United States Navy, a resident of my home state of Washington, on his upcoming retirement August 11 after 4 years as Program Executive Officer for Aircraft Carriers and 32 years service to his country.

Rear Admiral Michael E. McMahon was commissioned in 1979 from the University of Colorado where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. He has also earned a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1986 from the Naval Postgraduate School and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Mechanical Engineering/Materials Science from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1996.

Rear Admiral McMahon's sea assignments included engineering tours onboard USS *Richard S. Edwards* (DD 950), USS *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67), USS *Ranger* (CV 61), and USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) as Chief Engineer. Rear Admiral McMahon's shore assignments included Ship Design Manager, Future Aircraft Carriers Program (CITNX), Naval Sea Systems Command, PMS-378, and Program Director, Future Aircraft Carrier Program (CVNX), Naval Sea Systems Command, PMS-378. He has served as Engineering and Planning Officer and Business Officer at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and IMF. Rear Admiral McMahon has also served as Executive Secretary to the Naval Research Advisory Committee and Government Advisor to the Defense Science Board. In August 2004, he reported as Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair, USN, Newport News, Virginia responsible for the U.S. Navy's Aircraft Carrier and Submarine Ship Construction, refueling

and repair programs at Northrop Grumman Newport News. On 3 December 2007, Rear Admiral McMahon assumed command as the fifth Program Executive Officer for Aircraft Carriers.

Rear Admiral McMahon distinguished himself in every aspect of his demanding and complex assignment as the Program Executive Officer for Aircraft Carriers. During his tour he led the effort to begin construction of the Navy's first aircraft carrier design in 40 years, the *Gerald R. Ford* Class, and achieved the major milestone of laying the keel of the first ship of the class, CVN 78, in 2009. He also oversaw the beginning of advanced construction of the second aircraft carrier in the class, *John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79), in 2011.

Rear Admiral McMahon provided capable leadership for in-service aircraft carrier programs at PEO Aircraft Carriers. He organized the Naval Sea System Command's support for the time-critical fire restoration of USS *George Washington* (CVN 73). His leadership was key in driving successful delivery of CVN 73 back to the Fleet to support critical Forward Deployed Naval Forces missions. He also oversaw the successful commissioning and delivery of USS *George H.W. Bush* (CVN 77) the last *Nimitz* class aircraft carrier, which transitioned from delivery to deployment in only 24 months. During his tenure the Refueling and Complex Overhaul (RCOH) of USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) was completed under budget and the RCOH of USS *Theodore Roosevelt* was begun. He also oversaw the last drydocking of the Nation's oldest aircraft carrier USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) and worked to begin the planning for the first nuclear powered aircraft carrier inactivation.

Rear Admiral McMahon's decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy Achievement Medal, Liberation of Kuwait Medals (Kuwait and Saudi Arabia), Southwest Asia Service Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Medal, and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

For his many years of service to our Nation, I join my colleagues in extending our best wishes upon his retirement and wish him ongoing success in all future endeavors.

HONORING PETTY OFFICER AMILCAR RODRIGUEZ

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary bravery of Petty Officer Amilcar Rodriguez, who was awarded the Silver Star for his valor in combat. The remarkable courage he demonstrated while aiding fellow soldiers at great personal risk represents the highest caliber of service to his country.

A 1998 graduate of Avon High School, Petty Officer Rodriguez was serving as a Navy corpsman, or medic, on November 6, 2009, in Bala Murghab in Afghanistan when a Marine and two Afghan soldiers in his team were shot and wounded by an enemy sniper. Under extreme duress, Rodriguez returned fire, killing

two enemy combatants. He then exposed himself to enemy fire and was shot three times while dragging the wounded Marine to safety. As other Marines rescued Rodriguez and his colleague, he told them how to treat his wounded colleague. Later, while still seriously injured, Rodriguez assisted other medics in treating the wounded.

The Silver Star is the third-highest military decoration members of the armed forces can receive, and is only given to soldiers who perform "with marked distinction" and demonstrate gallantry in the face of considerable military adversity. The bravery Petty Officer Rodriguez displayed shows his exceptional dedication to the armed forces and to his fellow soldiers.

In reflection of the Silver Star he was recently awarded, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring the incredible actions, courage and selflessness of Connecticut native, Petty Officer Amilcar Rodriguez.

CIVIL RIGHTS ABUSES IN CYPRUS

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the lives lost to date on Cyprus, and in recognition of the continuing conflict and civil rights abuses taking place on the island.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus in response to a Greek led coup, bringing to life a conflict that had long remained dormant. On that day, Turkish armed forces took control of the Northern portion of the island, and continue to occupy nearly 37 percent of Cyprus' territory today.

The continuing occupation has resulted in segregation and division of Greek and Turkish Cypriots, preventing the diverse and peaceful communities that once existed from returning, and inhibiting any communication or peaceful solution to the current crisis.

To date, more than 160,000 Turkish mainland settlers have emigrated to Cyprus, creating an imbalance in the population. In addition to that figure, the continued presence of 43,000 Turkish troops in Cyprus has contributed to tension between either ethnicity.

During the course of this conflict, more than 200,000 Greek Cypriots have been forced from their homes; 520 Greek Orthodox churches have been vandalized; 15,000 ecclesiastical items have been lost or stolen; nearly 60,000 Cypriot artifacts have been illegally transferred to other nations; and the property of displaced Greek-Cypriots, including homes and business, has been commandeered by mainland Turkish immigrants. These human rights violations, historical defacements, and cultural destruction of the Cypriot legacy must be stopped.

Mr. Speaker, this House and the United Nations have consistently passed resolutions calling for protection of the Cypriot people, restoration of property rights, and the return of stolen historic and religious artifacts. It is critical that a peaceful solution to this standoff is reached, so that all Cypriot people can return to their homes, and rebuild the vibrant, diverse and accepting communities that once existed there.

I urge all parties involved to join in negotiating a settlement that will prevent further devastation and restore peace and security to the island of Cyprus.

TRIBUTE TO THE WOUNDED WARRIORS AT WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a tribute poem to the brave men and women who were wounded while serving our country—our Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center:

100 Years . . .
Throughout all that heartache . . .
And all those most swollen tears . . .
And all of that most courageous courage, so
seen here . . .
From battlefields of honor bright!
From far across those distant shores, those
fights . . .
From deep blue oceans of yore . . .
And all of those heroes, up in those air wars
. . .

Who on land, air and sea . . .
Army, Navy, The Air Force, Coast Guard and
the United States Marine Corps . . .
Have all brought their Brothers and Sisters
In Arms, to Walter Reed . . .

To Heal!
To rebuild where none lies left!
With but only their fine hearts to bless . . .
As it was all here, that they so received . . .
But The Very Best, at Walter Reed!
Doctors and Nurses and Therapists, Soldiers
and Social Workers on this great list
. . .

Who have but faced the worst, who have but
passed that test!
Cheating death, with but only their most
courageous quests . . .
With years of training and devoting, to com-
plete their most noble of notions!
But to heal only our very best!
With only their skills and most courageous
hearts, no less . . .
Against All Odds, they would not rest . . .
This Battle, Their Valiant Quest, to win that
night so yes!

Day In and Day Out . . .
As their fine hearts to them, so shout . . .
Not to give up, nor give in . . .
For this is how miracles all begin!
All out here on the cutting edge . . .
As their fine hearts are but all so pledged
. . .

So pledged, but to heal!
To an oath so true, so real!
To Men and Women without arms and legs
. . .

Who without eyes and faces, as to them so
pray . . .
And yet, with the stress of each new day . . .
How stoically, all of them have made their
ways . . .
But, a thank you is all they ask . . .
As they've seen all of those Mothers crying
. . .

Out in the halls, with all that pain and
heartache . . . asking why then?
Surely, there is no denying . . .
Holding a young man's hand, until he lays
dying . . .

As their fine hearts and souls, so trying . . .
And yet, they go to work each day . . .
Asking not much more, then to win those
battles great . . .
To save our most precious heroes, all in their
light!

With the Gift of Life, they ask but for one
more night!

As each and all, are but quiet heroes in God's
eyes . . .

As it's in private that they now so cry!
As they go out all about their jobs each day
. . .

Attention, to themselves, they'll not pay
. . .

As it's to save precious life, for which they
pray!

And when that light once again begins to
shine . . .

They must now draw a new battle line!
To rebuild . . . to somehow instill . . .

With Hope, the very will . . . all in a fine
hero's heart to live!

And somehow to start all over again!
To ready them to rejoin that fight, or to try
to start a brand new life . . .

As it's clear, that they've done as much to
help win all those wars!

At Walter Reed, have come . . .
Such magnificent men and women, our
daughters and sons . . .

Who to death will not heed!
All because they so believe!

All those lives, and all those stories . . .
And all of those children who'll now know
the glory . . .

That glory of having a Mom and Dad, and
who one day may grow up to be . . .

An Angel, saving lives at Walter Reed!

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,342,830,116,551.28.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$3,704,404,370,257.48 since then.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING THE BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Madison, located in Morris County, New Jersey as they celebrate their 165th Anniversary.

Bethel was the first African-American Church in the Borough of Madison, New Jersey. Its beginnings date back to 1846 when informal gatherings first took place. After being deeded property in 1850, Bethel emerged 35 years later in 1885. Bethel Madison is a testimony of growth and constancy, thriving throughout the many decades. It has been witness to over a century and a half of American history. The church has seen its fair share of hardships, but it has managed to survive and thrive.

Today, Bethel's unassuming, traditional structure remains, but what takes place inside